

**Disabled persons**

1289. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of disabled persons in different States and Union Territories;

(b) the number of those who are blind and mentally retarded; and

(c) the number of those disabled happen to be so since birth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) during 58th round (July-December, 2002) estimated number of persons with disabilities in the country was 1.85 crore. Estimated number of blind and mentally retarded persons are given below:

Type of disability	No. of persons
1. Mental retardation	9.95 lakh
2. Blindness	20.13 lakh

Further details regarding State-wise prevalence of various types of disabilities are available in NSSO Report No. 485(58/26/1) entitled "Disabled persons in India".

(c) NSSO survey estimated that there were 55.99 lakh persons having disabilities since birth.

**Declaring tribal sub-plan areas as Scheduled areas**

†1290. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh, following the reconstitution of new districts, has submitted any proposal to the Central Government for the tribal sub-plan areas to be declared as Scheduled areas and whether the approval has been accorded;

(b) if not, by when the approval is likely to be accorded; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether similar other proposals are also under Government's consideration?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh, following the reconstitution of new districts, have submitted a proposal for reorganization of Integrated Tribal Development Projects, MADA pockets and clusters in State.

After examination of the proposal, the Government of Madhya Pradesh have been requested to furnish the maps indicating Census Code Numbers of the villages proposed to be included under tribal sub-plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

#### **Grant to Maharashtra**

1291. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount given as grant by Government to Maharashtra during the last three years for various projects;

(b) whether the State Government had used this grant to the particular project or delivered this fund to the other projects; and

(c) whether the State Government has timely submitted expenditure account?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Details of funds released by this Ministry to the Government of Maharashtra for the development of tribals during the last three years (2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04), scheme-wise, are enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(b) No case of diversion of funds by the Government of Maharashtra has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(c) Yes, Sir. The funds under the various schemes of this Ministry are released after the receipt of utilization certificates for the funds released earlier.